



Office of the Chief

Bill John Baker Principal Chief OP Gh JSS& DY OEOGA

S. Joe Crittenden
Deputy Principal Chief
3. KG. JEYSY
WPA DLOA OESGA

# Report to the Cherokee Nation Tribal Council

Cherokee Nation Citizens (Compensation) Committee

In accordance with Legislative Act 40-07, and recently amended by Legislative Act 01-15

#### Members:

Deacon Turner [Chair] (Denver, CO)

Lyndon Emberton (Muldrow, OK)

Suzanne Gilstrap (Eucha, OK)

Teresa Adair (Tulsa, OK)

Curtis Bruehl (Oklahoma City, OK)

### Charge:

To set the salaries of the duly elected Cherokee Nation officials, specifically the Principal Chief, Deputy Chief, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and Members of the Tribal Council, for the next four-year term.

#### Procedures:

The two members appointed by the Principal Chief (Deacon Turner and Curtis Bruehl) and the two members appointed by the Tribal Council (Lyndon Emberton and Suzanne Gilstrap) met at 1:00pm on February 1, 2019 and unanimously appointed the fifth member (Teresa Adair). The meeting proceeded with all members in place, and the committee requested market analysis data from Cherokee Nation Human Resources staff. The committee members received the requested data in April 2019, and began the review of comparable institutions. The second and final committee meeting was held on June 30, 2019 at 10:00am.

The committee considered the work of Human Resources staff as well as the prior Citizen Committee's report. The review included other tribal nations, local government, state government as well as public and private sector institutions. The majority of the discussion centered on the salaries of each of the officials, but recommendations emerged regarding eligible benefits.

#### Recommendations:

The committee unanimously approved the salary schedule in the table below. The committee further recommends that all elected officials will be eligible for annual cost-of-living-adjustments commensurate with Cherokee Nation employees.

Principal Chief		Deputy Chief		Speaker		Deputy Speaker		Tribal Council	
\$	350,000	\$	233,333	\$	95,000	\$	90,000	\$	85,000

The committee also recommends that the Chief and Deputy Chief be provided burial services. All elected officials shall be granted benefits similar to Cherokee Nation employees, including insurance and retirement investment. In addition to the other benefits, and where applicable, elected officials shall be considered eligible for additional contribution to a 457 investment plan.

## Submission:

In accordance with Legislative Act 01-15 this report shall be submitted in consideration on June 30, 2019.

DocuSigned by:

Curtis Bruent Docusigned by:

Lyndon Emberton

Respectfully,
Docusigned by:

Deacon Turner, Chair

-Docusigned by: Swanne Gilstrap

Suzanne Gilstrap

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